

Message Text

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ACTION AF-04

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1642
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 0934

LIMDIS

EO 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MZ, RH, UN, US
SUBJECT: RHODESIAN SANCTIONS: UN OFFSET FUND FOR MOZAMBIQUE

REF: LOURENCO MARQUES 520

1. WE WISH TO ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH VIEWS EXPRESSED PARA 4 REFTEL. WE ARE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED THAT ROUTINE MOVEMENT THROUGH CONGRESS OF BYRD AMENDMENT REPEAL (WE NOW UNDERSTAND SFRC AFRICAN SUBCOMMITTEE MAY NOT BEGIN ITS HEARINGS ON REPEAL BEFORE JUNE) MAKES IT QUESTIONABLE THAT FINAL ACTION CAN BE COMPLETED PRIOR TO JUNE 25 MOZAMBIQUE INDEPENDENCE DAY. IN MEANTIME, UNLESS US IMPORTERS OF RHODESIAN METALS AGREE TO ADOPT POLICY OF VOLUNTARY IMPORT RESTRAINT PROPOSED LUSAKA 641, AND THAT POLICY IS PROMPTLY COMMUNICATED TO AFRICAN LEADERS AS WELL AS TO SMITH'S GOVT, MANY AFRICANS WILL QUESTION CREDIBILITY OF OUR REPEATED ASSURANCES WE SUPPORT ZAMBIAN AND ANC EFFORTS TO RESOLVE RHODESIAN PROBLEM IN NON-VIOLENT FASHION.

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2. ON OTHER HAND, WERE USG TO COME FORWARD AT EARLY DATE

WITH PLEDGE OF SUBSTANTIAL CONTRIBUTION TO UN OFFSET FUND FOR MOZAMBIQUE, THIS ACT WOULD BE SEEN HERE AS POSITIVE AND WELCOME INITIAL USG RESPONSE TO RECENT URGINGS IN WASHINGTON BY PRES KAUNDA AND ANC CHAIRMAN MUZOREWA THAT USG DO MORE TO HELP ACHIEVE RHODESIAN SETTLEMENT. US CONTRIBUTION WOULD SERVE COUNTER CARPING BY THOSE LIKE ANC'S NDABANINGI SITHOLE WHO STILL DOUBT USG PREPARED PLAY POSITIVE ROLE IN RHODESIA (LUSAKA 905). WITHOUT TRYING TO EXAGGERATE POTENTIAL POLITICAL IMPACT OF US CONTRIBUTION TO MOZAMBIQUE OFFSET FUND, EARLY EXPRESSION OF OUR READINESS TO CONTRIBUTE GENEROUSLY SHOULD HELP MITIGATE SOMEWHAT ADVERSE AFRICAN REACTION IN EVENT WE COMPELLED TO VETO OR ABSTAIN ON UNSC RESOLUTION TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA OVER NAMIBIA. CONVERSELY, FAILURE BY USG TO SUPPORT OFFSET FUND, OR PROLONGED DELAY WHILE WE "STUDY" REQUEST FOR CONTRIBUTION, WOULD SERVE REVIVE ZAMBIAN AND OTHER AFRICAN QUALMS ABOUT SINCRITY OF US ADMINISTRATION'S EXPRESSED DESIRE FOR CLOSER AND MORE FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH AFRICAN NATIONS, QUALMS WHICH WE BELIEVE HAVE BEEN AT LEAST PARTIALLY ALLAYED FOLLOWING KAUNDA AND MUZOREWA TALKS WITH US OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON. OUR EFFORTS TO HELP MAKE MOZAMBIQUE SANCTIONS OPERATION EFFECTIVE WOULD ALSO GIVE US ACE IN THE HOLE WERE CONGRESS AGAIN TO ADJOURN WITHOUT PASSING BYRD AMENDMENT REPEAL. AS CONGEN WALKER RIGHTLY POINTS OUT, EFFECTIVE MOZAMBIQUE SANCTIONS WILL EVENTUALLY MAKE BYRD AMENDMENT IRRELEVANT SO LONG AS SOUTH AFRICA UNABLE TO PROVIDE ALTERNATIIE EXPORT ROUTE FOR RHODESIAN CHROME.

3. FOR THESE REASONS, AS WELL AS
RHERS CITED REFTEL, WE
HOPE IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR USG MAKE EARLY ANNOUNCEMENT
OF ITS DECISION TO SUPPORT OFFSET FUND FOR MOZAMBIQUE.
USG RESPONSE TO 1973 UNSYG APPEAL FOR EMERGENCY TRANSPORT
AID TO ZAMBIA FOLLOWING BORDER CLOSURE WITH RHODESIA OFFERS
PRECEDENT IN THIS RESPECT.
MAY

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